

'Double Engine' Govt to drive J&K vision at 2047: Dr Jitendra

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JAMMU: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh unveiled the ambitious Vision J&K @2047, emphasizing its integration into PM Narendra Modi's Vision India @2047. Describing the "Double Engine Government" as the driving force behind this vision, Dr. Singh highlighted the upcoming Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections as a historic milestone, marking the first time in a decade the region will witness such electoral activity. This development, he said, reflects J&K's vibrant democratic aspirations.

Dr. Singh termed this electoral event a "seminal step" in India's history. He attributed the progress in J&K to Prime Minister Modi's dynamic leadership, recalling the significant reforms and initiatives since Modi's tenure began on May 26, 2014. According to Dr. Singh, PM Modi has effectively "unshackled India from age-old restrictions," leading to substantial regional benefits.

The Minister discussed the final phase of militancy in J&K and the establishment of Zilla Parishads, marking a significant transformation in local self-governing institutions.

He noted that despite the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, J&K was an exception due to previous leaders' vested interests. The abrogation of Article 370, he asserted, was crucial for this transformation. Dr. Singh detailed



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh talking to reporters.

CPGRAMS model for grievance redressal, technological advancements like drone mapping for farmers, and reforms such as eliminating interviews for equal opportunity. He also noted the Shahpur-Kandi project's progress and predicted Kishtwar's emergence as a power hub. Dr. Singh underscored India's remarkable achievements under PM Modi's leadership, including rising as a top startup destination and significant improvements in global rankings. He affirmed that with continued support from PM Modi and a BJP Chief Minister, the "Double Engine Government" promises a pivotal role for J&K in India's future growth and the realization of Vision India @2047.

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Sham Lal calls NC 'Mother of Militancy'; urges people to reject their agenda of turmoil



People meeting with Senior BJP leader, Sham Lal Sharma.

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JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and candidate for the Jammu North Assembly Constituency, Sham Lal Sharma, on Monday launched a scathing attack on the National Conference (NC), labeling it an "unholy coalition" formed to seize power by any means necessary.

Speaking at a public interaction in Raipur village, Sharma accused the NC of exploiting the innocent people of Jammu and Kashmir for their own political gain.

"NC is the mother of militancy and turmoil in Jammu and Kashmir," Sharma asserted.

"For decades, their divisive politics have caused immense suffering for the

people of this region, with thousands of innocent lives, including security personnel, lost to violence. Now, they dare to dream of returning to power to revive their unfinished agenda of weakening the nation," he said.

Sharma emphasized that the abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A by the Central Government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has brought about a significant transformation across Jammu and Kashmir.

"Today, law and order is normal, there is no curfew, no stone-pelting incidents, no institution closures, and no strikes," he stated.

"The record number of tourists visiting every year and the successful hosting of

the G-20 Summit in Kashmir are clear indicators of the positive impact of ending the so-called special status," he added.

Expressing confidence in the formation of an exclusive BJP government in Jammu and Kashmir, Sharma declared, "The people of Jammu and Kashmir seek peace and development, and only the BJP can deliver on that promise. The voters are wise and will respond with a decisive mandate against those who aim to bring back an era of militancy. I urge the people not to be misled by the false propaganda of NC, Congress and PDP, but to support the BJP in ensuring complete peace, harmony, and progress."

In a significant political development, NC District President Randhir Singh Raipuria, along with his supporters, joined the BJP during the event.

Citing inspiration from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pro-poor policies and programs, Raipuria expressed his commitment to strengthening the party.

Welcoming Raipuria into the BJP fold, Sharma remarked, "His joining will bolster the party at the grassroots level and strengthen our resolve to work for the betterment of Jammu and Kashmir."

JKHCBAJ organises farewell function to honor District Judges



A dignitary speaking at farewell function being organized by Jammu Bar to honour District Judges on Monday.

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JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu (JKHCBAJ), on Monday hosted a farewell function under the Presidentship of Vikram Sharma Sr. Advocate, the first of its kind, on the transfer of the esteemed judges of the District Judiciary who have served with exceptional dedication and integrity.

The function marked a significant occasion, bringing together members of the Bar and the judiciary to acknowledge the remarkable contributions made by the judges during their tenure in Jammu. The event was opened by Advocate Parvesh Singh Salaria, General Secretary who welcomed all attendees.

In the opening address, Parvesh Singh highlighted the strong relationship between the Bench and the Bar, which has been characterized by mutual respect and collaboration.

The President of the JKHCBAJ Vikram Sharma Sr. Advocate then shared his words of appreciation, expressing gratitude for the consistent support from the judiciary throughout their tenure.

He expressed an unflinching hope that while the mutual respect between Bar and Bench grows, the focus remains the Justice Dispensation.

The event featured a speech by Sanjay Parihar, the Principal District Judge, who emphasized the importance of upholding the

integrity of the justice delivery system. He encouraged junior lawyers to remain committed to these values as they progress in their legal careers.

During the event, senior members of the Bar including D.K. Khajuria and D.S. Saini, Former Presidents, were invited to present bouquets to the judges as a token of appreciation for their service.

Amit Gupta, Vice President, Chetan Misri, Joint Secretary and Utkarsh Pathania, Treasurer, JKHCBA Jammu, on behalf of

JKHCBAJ, extended best wishes to the judges for their future postings and personal lives, confident that they will continue to excel and inspire wherever they shall be discharging their duties.

Young Lawyers Association also led by its President Rohit Sharma Advocate also presented bouquets to Judges of District Judiciary.

The event concluded with a lunch, where attendees had the opportunity to interact informally and reflect on the impact of the judiciary's work during these judges' tenure.

CS chairs 8th Executive Council meeting of JKRLM



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing 8th Executive Council meeting of JKRLM.

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SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Monday chaired 8th Executive Council meeting of Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM).

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Secretary Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Secretary Health and Medical Education, Mission Director JKRLM, Additional Mission Director JKRLM and other officers.

During the meeting, various important issues pertaining to the implementation and operation of the scheme viz Institutional building and

capacity building, financial inclusion of Self Help Groups, farm and non-farm livelihoods and others were discussed in detail.

The Chief Secretary emphasized on engaging the SHGs into gainful livelihoods interventions to ensure appreciable improvement in their income on a sustainable basis.

He said that JKRLM has a ready-made support base in the form of SHGs and has a potential of generating entrepreneurs. He said that it is a big platform and the Mission should capitalise on its resources to derive maximum benefits.

He stressed to focus on convergence with the line departments for availing benefits from all existing government schemes.

During the meeting, assessment of existing manpower working in the Mission came up for discussion and various suggestions were put forth for rationalization of human resource for their optimum utilization.

Mission Director gave a brief about the action plan and activities being undertaken by the JKRLM.

She said that JKRLM is a significant initiative in the region focused on enhancing rural livelihoods and empowering women. She added that JKRLM's impact is significant with over 7.13 lakh households having been mobilized into 90864 SHGs. She further added that the Mission has expanded its reach across all 285 blocks, bringing together rural women into a network.

Excise Dept conducts raids on brick kilns at Nowbugh



Excise Department team destroying uncovered Lahan during a drive.

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BUDGAM: On the directions of the Excise Commissioner, Subash Chander Chibber, and under the supervision of Dy. Excise Commissioner Executive Kashmir, Tazayun Mukhtar, officials headed by Inspector from the Excise Range Central Kashmir on Monday conducted a series of raids at brick kilns located in Nowbugh, Tehsil Chadoora, Budgam.

During the raid, the team uncovered 17 liters of Lahan adjacent to one of the brick kilns. The illicit substance was immediately destroyed on the spot. The owners of the brick kilns were duly informed about the severe

legal repercussions associated with illicit distillation.

In addition to the enforcement action, the senior citizens of the locality were sensitized regarding the social and health hazards of illicit liquor. They were urged to report any such illegal activities to the officials of the Excise Department promptly.

This operation underscores the commitment of the Excise Department to curb the illegal production and distribution of illicit liquor in the region. Further actions will continue to be taken to ensure compliance with the law and to protect public health and safety.

Priya Sethi asks Morcha leaders to drive BJP's victory in upcoming Assembly Polls

JAMMU: Priya Sethi, National Executive Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and former Minister, on Monday chaired strategy session with the Morcha Prabhari of Jammu East Constituency, underscoring the pivotal role of Morchas in securing a resounding victory in the upcoming Jammu & Kashmir Assembly elections.

While addressing the gathering, Priya Sethi former minister lauded the efforts of the Morchas, calling them the backbone of the BJP. She asserted, "Morchas are the lifeblood of our party, acting as the key feeders that connect us to the grassroots. Their role in energizing the party's outreach is indispensable, especially with the Assembly polls around the corner."

Surinder Sharma, Prabhari East Constituency and Virender Singh, Pravasi Prabhari besides Kuldeep Kandhari, Adarsh Jathair, Savita Anand, Sucha Singh and others were also present during the meeting.

"The Assembly polls will define the future of J&K, and the responsibility lies heavily on the shoulders of our Morcha leaders to ensure a landslide victory for the BJP. You are



NEM of BJP, Priya Sethi speaking in a programme.

not just leaders within your communities but the driving force behind BJP's mission to bring peace, development, and prosperity to the region," Sethi remarked. Highlighting the achievements of the Modi government, Priya Sethi urged the Morcha leaders to intensify their engagement with the public by showcasing the government's people-centric welfare schemes and transformative development initiatives. "Our Morcha leaders must amplify the voice of the party in every household, emphasizing how the Modi government has uplifted the common man through path-breaking reforms and development projects. This message needs to resonate

deeply within every section of society," she added.

Priya Sethi stressed that the Morcha leaders have a vital role in mobilizing support and galvanizing communities to vote for the BJP. "The party's triumph in the upcoming polls depends on your dedication and leadership."

Senior BJP leader and Prabhari East Constituency Surinder Sharma said, "It is time to double down on efforts and translate BJP's vision into a reality for the people of Jammu & Kashmir."

Varinder Singh said that Modi Government has uplifted the poor people of the country and that is why people trust on Modi and the BJP party.

Plantation drive conducted in Kala Kendra premises

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JAMMU: The Kala Kendra Society, in collaboration with the Social Forestry Division of the Forest Department, on Monday organized a Plantation Drive in the Kala Kendra Complex as part of the "Vannamahotsav 2024-25" celebrations.

Deepika Sharma, Secretary in the Department of Culture, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the drive by planting a Chinara tree in the lawns of the Kala Kendra. In her address, she emphasized the importance of such initiatives, stating, "It is the duty of every individual to revive the natural processes and ecological relationships that sustain life. Dr. Javid Rahi, Secretary of the Kala Kendra Society, highlighted the objective of the event, which is to encourage artists to participate in plantation

activities within the complex and to inspire environmentally-focused creativity. He announced that a Poster Making Competition will be organized later this month at Kala Kendra to showcase the creativity of the younger generation with a focus on the ecosystem."

Safeer Hussain Shah, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of Social Forestry Division Jammu, informed that as many as 250 plants have been planted in the complex, with many of them being fast-growing species that will enhance the beauty of the Kala Kendra building.

This event was a significant step towards creating a greener and more sustainable environment at Kala Kendra, with active involvement from both the artistic community and environmental organizations, Dr. A S Amn former Secretary Kala Kendra stated.

Spl Secy I&C visits JKI's wool manufacturing Unit

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SRINAGAR: Special Secretary Industries and Commerce Department, Mufti Mohammad Farid ud Din, on Monday visited the wool based manufacturing unit of Jammu Kashmir Industries Limited (JKI) and its factory outlet located at Benina.

During his visit, the Special Secretary was accompanied by Vikram K Gupta, Managing Director JKI; Deputy General Manager (P&A), Manager (P&A) and other senior officers from JKI.

During his visit, he was briefed about the efforts being made by the organization for increasing its marketing outreach by various methods.

Further to cater to the gov-

ernment market, it was informed that the wool related products manufactured by JKI are also being made available on GeM portal to enhance the sales.

While reviewing the working of the unit and its factory outlet, Farid ud Din appreciated the efforts being put by JKI management for running the unit on commercial lines. However, he suggested that various schemes and discount based marketing strategies may also be explored by JKI, so that old inventory which is mostly out-dated as per the market need is disposed off well in time. Further, it was directed that the management shall focus and stress upon the quality and design up-gradation of the products to make them more competitive.

ANTF Jammu organizes awareness program on drug abuse

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JAMMU: Under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) Jammu organized an awareness program on drug abuse on Monday at Government Higher Secondary School Boys, Bakshi Nagar, Jammu.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from a large number of students and staff members.

The primary objective of the program was to educate the public about the dangers of drug abuse and to take preventive measures to protect society from the scourge of drug addiction.

The session was led by SSP ANTF Raj Kumar, who provided comprehensive insights into various aspects of drug



SSP ANTF Raj Kumar speaking at an awareness programme.

abuse. He emphasized the importance of staying away from drugs and highlighted sports activities as a constructive alternative that can serve as a preventive measure against drug abuse.

During the program, students were encouraged to actively engage in sports and other positive activities as a means to avoid the temptation of drug use.

Additionally, they were urged

to be vigilant and share any information related to drug peddlers and smugglers with law enforcement agencies.

This collaborative approach aims to enhance community involvement in combating drug-related issues and to facilitate prompt legal action against offenders.

Students were also advised to extend their awareness efforts to their peer groups, fostering a wider community understanding of the dangers associated with drug abuse. By creating a network of informed individuals, the program seeks to build a stronger, drug-free community. Overall, the initiative underscored the importance of collective effort in addressing the drug menace and promoting a healthier society.